

REMARKS

Claims 17, 19 to 21, 27 to 31 and 35 to 39 were previously withdrawn from consideration, and are now canceled.

Thus, Claims 16, 22 to 26, 40 and 41 remain pending in the application.

Double Patenting Rejection:

Claims 16, 22 to 26, 40 and 41 were rejected over co-pending application 09/080,546. This rejection is overcome by today's filing of an Assignment and Terminal Disclaimer, as follows.

Filed today is an Assignment from inventors Harrison, Andersson and Li to the University of Alberta. (A courtesy copy of this Assignment is enclosed).

With the filing of today's assignment, the present application is therefore assigned to the Alberta Research Council and the University of Alberta. Co-pending application 09/0808,546 is also assigned to the Alberta Research Council and the University of Alberta. Thus, the present application and co-pending application 09/0808,546 are now commonly assigned.

Filed herewith is an appropriate Terminal Disclaimer in view of co-pending application 09/0808,546.

The Applicants believe that today's filing of the necessary Assignment and Terminal Disclaimer removes all rejections and places all pending claims in condition for allowance. The Applicants therefore respectfully request the issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

The Applicants also file a Notice of Appeal herewith to avoid any possible unintentional abandonment of the present application should the present Assignment and Terminal Disclaimer not overcome the rejections set forth in the Final Office Action.

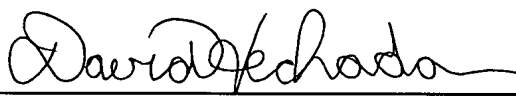
Conclusion:

For the reasons presented above, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is therefore requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference would advance prosecution of the present application, he is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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